

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VALLETTA 1114

FOR EUR/RPE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, MT

SUBJ: CSCE BASKET II: CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

REF: STATE 233202

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

1. THE BASIC STATISTICAL REPORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA ARE GENERALLY TIMELY AND ADEQUATE. THIS INCLUDES SPECIFICALLY INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, FOREIGN TRADE, AND AGRICULTURE. THE METHODS OF COLLECTING STATISTICAL DATA AND THE SMALL STAFF INVOLVED IN COMPILING DATA SOMETIMES CREATES LAGS, BUT THESE ARE NOT CONSIDERED EXCESSIVE.

2. HOWEVER, ONE AREA IN WHICH LESS THAN FULL DISCLOSURE HAS BEEN NOTED IS IN TRADE STATISTICS. IN COMPILING THESE STATISTICS, THERE IS LITTLE RECOGNITION GIVEN TO QUANTITIES INVOLVED. IN SOME CASES, THERE IS ALSO INADEQUATE CLASSIFICATION OF ITEMS. THIS IS FLAGRANTLY OBVIOUS ON IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS DELIBERATELY TO CONCEAL TRADE DATA WHICH THE GOM CONSIDERS TO BE POLITICALLY SENSITIVE.

3. LAWS AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN TRADE APPEAR
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REGULARLY IN THE MALTA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, WHICH IS

PUBLISHED APPROXIMATELY EVERY OTHER DAY.

4. THE STATISTICAL DETAILS CONCERNING PETROLEUM IMPORTS INTO MALTA HAVE BEEN FURTHER RESTRICTED BY THE GOM DURING THE PAST YEAR. THE LATEST DATA INCLUDES ALL SUCH IMPORTS AS A SINGLE ITEM, FOR WHICH ONLY A TOTAL VALUE IS SHOWN. NO QUANTITIES ARE GIVEN. END CONFIDENTIAL

5. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE FOLLOWING LIST OF PUBLICATIONS INDICATES THE EXTENT TO WHICH ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION ON MALTA IS REGULARLY AVAILABLE.

6. (A) ANNUAL ABSTRACT OF STATISTICS, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY CENTRAL OFFICE OF STATISTICS (COS), LATEST ISSUE 12/75 COVERING CY 74: ABSTRACT OF STATISTICS APPEARING IN OTHER PUBLICATIONS. A COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY USEFUL AS A BASIC REFERENCE WORK.

(B) THE BUDGET (SPEECH), ISSUED ANNUALLY BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS (MFC), LATEST ISSUE 2/76 COVERING FY 1976-77: PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET FIGURES FOR THE UPCOMING FINANCIAL YEAR, AS WELL AS REVISED BUDGET FIGURES FOR THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR, IN SUMMARY FORM AND WITH USEFUL EXPLANATORY NARRATIVE. SHOULD BE REVIEWED IN CONJUNCTION WITH MORE DETAILED (BUDGET) ESTIMATES.

(C) CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY COS, LATEST ISSUE 11/75 COVERING OCTOBER 73 - SEPTEMBER 74: INCLUDES EMPLOYMENT FIGURES AS WELL AS AREA UNDER CULTIVATION, METHODS OF CULTIVATION AND EQUIPMENT USED, IRRIGATION, YIELDS, VALUES AND MARKETING METHODS. DATA ON LIVESTOCK INCLUDES SIZE OF HERDS AND POULTRY STOCK, MILK AND EGG PRODUCTION, ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED, VALUES AND MARKETING METHODS. DATA ON FISHERIES INCLUDES NUMBER AND TYPES OF CRAFT, EQUIPMENT USED, CATCH, VALUES AND MARKETING METHODS.

(D) CENSUS OF PRODUCTION REPORT, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY COS, LATEST ISSUE 6/76 COVERING CY74: DISTINGUISHES 53 MANUFACTURING AND 8 NON-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, BASED ON THE FOUR DIGIT INTERNATIONAL STANDARD INDUSTRIAL
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CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM. PRESENTED IS DATA ON EMPLOYMENT, AS WELL AS INPUT/OUTPUT DETAILS, INCLUDING WAGES AND SALARIES, MATERIALS, FUEL, RENT, PHYSICAL INVESTMENT, OUTPUT AND WORK IN PROGRESS.

(E) CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA (ANNUAL REPORT), ISSUED ANNUALLY BY CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA (CBM), LATEST ISSUE 6/75 COVERING CY 74: INCLUDES ANALYSIS OF CENTRAL BANK AND COMMERCIAL BANK OPERATIONS DURING THE YEAR, AS WELL

AS DEVELOPMENTS IN MALTA IN THE FIELDS OF FINANCE, INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

(F) CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA (QUARTERLY REVIEW), ISSUED QUARTERLY BY CBM, LATEST ISSUE 9/76: A QUARTERLY ANALYSIS COVERING APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AREAS AS THAT IN THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BANK. THE STATISTICAL DATA PRESENTED IS THE LATEST AVAILABLE IN ANY GIVEN AREA, BUT NEVER MORE CURRENT THAN THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

(G) DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW OF THE MALTESE ISLANDS, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY COS, LATEST ISSUE 7/75 COVERING CY 74: CONTAINS COMPREHENSIVE STATISTICS, INCLUDING POPULATION PROFILE AND TRENDS, BIRTH AND MORTALITY RATES, AND EMIGRATION DATA.

(H) DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF MALTA, ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER, LATEST ISSUE 11/74 COVERING CY 1973-1980: A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHICH CLEARLY SHOWS THE SOCIALIST ORIENTATION OF THE MALTA LABOR GOVERNMENT. IN MANY AREAS, THESE EXCEPTIONALLY LONG RANGE PLANS HAVE BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS AND NEED REVISION.

(I) ECONOMIC SURVEY, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY OPM, LATEST ISSUE 2/76 COVERING CY 75: CONTAINS A SUMMARY OF MALTA'S ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE DURING THE PAST FISCAL YEAR AND A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE PERFORMANCE OF KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

(J) ESTIMATES (BUDGET), ISSUED ANNUALLY BY MFC, LATEST ISSUE 2/76 COVERING FY 76/77: SHOWS DETAILED BUDGET FOR UPCOMING FINANCIAL YEAR, PLUS REVISED AND ACTUAL FIGURES FOR PRECEDING TWO YEARS. SHOULD BE REVIEWED IN CONJUNCTION WITH BUDGET (SPEECH).

(K) MALTA TODAY, ISSUED QUARTERLY BY DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION (DOI), LATEST ISSUE 8/76 COVERING APRIL-JUNE 1976: HIGHLIGHTS GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES, BOTH CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC. CONTAINS ARTICLES AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

(L) MALTA TRADE DIRECTORY, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY MALTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (MCOC), LATEST ISSUE 11/75 COVERING CY 74: A COMMERCIAL PUBLICATION SHOWING THE OFFICE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS, AND DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS. ALSO CONTAINS STATISTICS ON THE ECONOMY, TRADE, FINANCE ETC., AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON TAXATION, EXCHANGE CONTROL REGULATIONS, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES, CUSTOMS REGULATIONS, ETC. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE LISTS OF MALTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS, TELEX SUBSCRIBERS, COMMISSION AGENTS AND IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS, GROUPED UNDER PRODUCT HEADINGS.

(M) MALTA TRADE STATISTICS, ISSUED QUARTERLY BY COS,

LATEST ISSUE 7/76 COVERING QUARTER ENDING 12/75 AND
CY 75: CONTAINS QUARTERLY AND YEAR TO DATE FIGURES
BASED ON SIX DIGIT SITC CODE. IN ADDITION THE FOUR

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 301025Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7004

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VALLETTA 1114

FOR EUR/RPE

DIGIT BTN CODE (CORRESPONDING TO THE MALTESE CUSTOMS
TARIFF) IS INDICATED IN THE DETAILED CLASSIFICATION.
THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OR DESTINATION IS INDICATED, AS
APPROPRIATE. VALUES ARE INDICATED IN MALTESE POUNDS,
BUT THE CORRESPONDING QUANTITIES ARE SHOWN ONLY WHERE
WEIGHT OR MEASURE ARE REQUIRED BY THE MALTESE CUSTOMS
REGULATIONS. (CURRENT REGULATIONS SELDOM REQUIRE
QUANTITIES TO BE INDICATED.) ON POLITICALLY SENSITIVE
ITEMS, SUCH AS PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, ONLY THE BROADEST
CLASSIFICATION IS SHOWN, TOGETHER WITH TOTAL VALUES,
THUS MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE INDIVIDUAL
QUANTITIES AND UNIT COSTS INVOLVED.

(N) MALTA YEAR BOOK, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY DE LA
SALLE BROTHERS, LATEST ISSUE 2/76 COVERING CY 75: A
COMMERCIAL PUBLICATION WHICH INCLUDES GENERAL INFORMATION
ON HISTORY, CURRENT EVENTS, GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ECONOMY OF MALTA. ALSO INCLUDES NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND DATA THEREON OF USE TO THE

TOURIST OR BUSINESS VISITOR TO MALTA.

(O) NATIONAL ACCOUNTS OF THE MALTESE ISLANDS, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY COS, LATEST ISSUE 1/76 COVERING CY 74: CONTAINS A BRIEF COMMENTARY ON MAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN MALTA AS WELL AS DETAILED INFORMATION ON NATIONAL OUTPUT AND INCOME, INCLUDING GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY
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INDUSTRY, CONSUMPTION, CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. THE STATISTICAL METHODS INVOLVED ARE BASED ON THOSE ADVANCED BY THE UN.

(P) QUARTERLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS, ISSUED QUARTERLY BY COS, LATEST ISSUE 4/76 COVERING QUARTER ENDING 12/75: CONTAINS A BRIEF COMMENTARY AS WELL AS ABRIDGED STATISTICS ON CLIMATE, POPULATION, EMPLOYMENT, TOURISM, TRANSPORTATION, TRADE, MANUFACTURING, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, FINANCE AND BANKING. THE FIRST RELEASE OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS (OFTEN PROVISIONAL) IS GENERALLY THROUGH THIS PUBLICATION.

(Q) SHIPPING AND AVIATION STATISTICS, ISSUED ANNUALLY BY COS, LATEST ISSUE 9/75 COVERING CY 74: DETAILED STATISTICS ON NUMBER AND TONNAGE OF AIRCRAFT AND VESSELS ARRIVING AND DEPARTING MALTA, CARGO HANDLED (INCLUDING MAIL), PORTS OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, PASSENGERS, TOURISTS AND EMIGRANTS. END UNCLASSIFIED.
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